

2016 Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge Hunting Regulations

- * Bag Limits: Deer - Two per day of any sex using big game tags.


Using DMAP tags, you will be allowed to take antlerless deer (does and fawns [buttons on males must be below the fur line]) without using your big game tags. If you take a young buck with buttons or antlers above the fur line, you must use a big game tag from your hunting license.

Feral Hogs - no daily limit, no season limit
- * Hunting Dates: October 24 - 25 - shotgun only (20 gauge or larger loaded with only buckshot or slugs). Bow and arrow are not permitted.
- * Hunting Hours: ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset
- * Age Requirements: You must be at least age 16 to hunt without an accompanying, qualified adult. Youths from age 12 to 15 may hunt only when accompanied by a licensed hunter who is age 18 or older. Persons under age 12 are prohibited from hunting.
- * A Hunter Safety certificate is required upon registration.
- * All hunters must check in and out at the Refuge deer-check station.
- * We prohibit use of tree stands, except on Long Island (Zone 1). We require safety harnesses to be worn at all times when hunters are in tree stands.
- * Dogs are prohibited.
- * Discharging or hunting with loaded firearms while in or on a vehicle/boat or shooting from a vehicle/boat is prohibited. In addition, shooting from Refuge roads and dikes is prohibited.
- * Unauthorized entry outside of the assigned hunt area and/or driving motorized vehicles off designated roads is prohibited.
- * Camping and fires on the Refuge are prohibited.
- * Shooting at Refuge nongame animals (i.e. snakes, turtles, birds, rabbits, squirrels, etc.) is prohibited.
- * Hunters must conspicuously wear a minimum of 400 square inches of solid colored, "hunter blaze-orange" clothing or material on their head, chest and back (the equivalent of a baseball cap and full vest).
- * Transportation from the check station to and from Zones 3 through 8 will be provided by Back Bay Refuge.
- * Transportation to Zone 1 (Long Island) must be provided by the hunter in the form of a portable, hand-launched boat (punt, canoe, row-boat, etc., without a boat trailer). Coast Guard regulations governing boat-loading capacities, proper use of personal flotation devices (life jackets), storm warnings, etc., are in effect for all watercraft users. Severe weather can result in cancellation of boat access to Long Island. For emergency purposes, cell phones are recommended. The Refuge reserves the right to reassign selected Zone 1 hunters to alternate vacant zones, should rough water or weather conditions prohibit boating to Long Island.
- * Transportation from the check station to and from Zone 2 will be provided by the hunter; those hunters must park in designated parking areas.
- * Transportation to the non-ambulatory hunt area (Zone 5) must be provided by the hunter.

- * All game must be dressed in the field at least 100 feet from any road or trail.
- * The Hacking Tower in Zone 4 is closed. No one is permitted to climb it.
- * All hunters must check in and out at the Refuge deer-check station, located in the Refuge maintenance compound.
- * Zone 1 hunters must be off Long Island by 4:45pm.
- * Discharging or hunting with unauthorized weapons (rifles, handguns, crossbows, etc.) or ammunition (other than shotgun slugs and buckshot) is prohibited.
- * The use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting is prohibited.
- * All weapons must comply with Virginia State laws and regulations.
- * Any violation of the above Refuge and/or State regulations can result in immediate loss of your hunting permit and hunting privileges for the year.
- * Unless otherwise stated all other Virginia State and federal regulations apply

Ten Commandments of Shooting Safety

1. Treat every firearm with the same respect due a loaded firearm.
2. Control the direction of your firearm's muzzle. Carry your firearm safely, keeping the safety on until ready to shoot. Keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.
3. Identify your target and what is beyond it. Know the identifying features of the game you hunt.
4. Be sure the barrel and action are clear of obstructions and that you have only the proper ammunition of the proper size for the firearm you are carrying.
5. Unload firearms when not in use. Leave the actions open. Firearms should be carried empty in cases to and from shooting areas.
6. Never point a firearm at anything you do not want to shoot. Avoid all horseplay with a firearm.
7. Never climb a fence or tree, or jump a ditch or log, with a loaded firearm. Never pull firearm toward you by the muzzle.
8. Never shoot a bullet at a flat, hard surface or water. During target practice, be sure your backstop is adequate.
9. Store firearms and ammunition separately beyond the reach of children and careless adults.
10. Avoid alcoholic beverages or other mood-altering drugs before or while shooting.

 Cut or tear along dotted line

Make a copy of the regulations for your buddy and have them bring the signed copy to registration.

I have read and understand the attached copy of the Back Bay NWR and False Cape State Park Controlled Deer and Pig Hunt, VDGIF Regulations and Information. I understand that any violation of these regulations may result in revocation of my hunting permit for this hunt for up to a year as well as forfeiture of any fees paid for this hunt. I have also read the Ten Commandments of Shooting Safety.

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

DATE

Cell Phone #

Emergency Contact Information:

NAME

Telephone #

ADDRESS:

Cell Phone #